

SENATE BILL 637

By Powers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4,  
Chapter 21, Part 7 and Title 39, relative to civil  
rights.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-309(a), is amended by  
deleting the first sentence and substituting:

The general assembly finds and declares that it is the right of every person  
regardless of race, color, ancestry, religion, national origin, or employment as a law  
enforcement officer or judge, to be secure and protected from fear, intimidation,  
harassment, and bodily injury caused by the activities of groups and individuals.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-17-309(b), is amended by adding  
the following as new subdivisions:

( ) Injures or threatens to injure or coerces another person with intent to  
unlawfully intimidate another because of the other's perceived or actual employment as  
a law enforcement officer or judge;

( ) Damages, destroys, or defaces any real or personal property of another  
person because of the other's perceived or actual employment as a law enforcement  
officer or judge;

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.